

Message Text

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40

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

PM-04 L-03 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SAJ-01 SAM-01 EB-07 /045 W

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O 301319Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3263

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN IMMEDIATE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 15987

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SP, GW, EC

SUBJECT: GERMAN-WEST EUROPEAN ACTIONS TO DEMONSTRATE
CONCERN ABOUT SPANISH EXECUTIONS

REF: BONN 15981

1. THE WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT IS COORDINATING WITH ITS
EC PARTNERS WHAT DIPLOMATIC STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO
EXPRESS CONCERN AT THE RECENT SPANISH EXECUTIONS.

2. THE HEAD OF THE FRG FOREIGN MINISTRY EUROPEAN DESK
(RUHFUS) HAS TOLD US THAT THE WEST GERMANS WILL PLEAD
ILLNESS AND ABSENT THEMSELVES FROM THE QUOTE DIA DEL CAUDILLO"
CEREMONIES SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW IF SIMILAR STEPS ARE
TAKEN BY OTHER EC MEMBERS. IN THAT CASE, HE SAID, ALL
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NINE EC SEATS AT THE CEREMONY WOULD BE VACANT. HE FELT

THIS WOULD HAVE SOME IMPACT.

3. RUHFUS ALSO SAID THAT AT LATER CEREMONIES WEST GERMANY MIGHT BE REPRESENTED AT LOWER LEVELS, ALTHOUGH THE FRG INTENDED TO RETURN ITS AMBASSADOR TO MADRID AFTER A TIME. HE SAID THE AMBASSADOR HAD BEEN PLANNING TO RETURN TO BONN ANYWAY AND THAT HIS RECALL WAS NOT INTENDED SIMPLY AS A REACTION TO THE SPANISH EXECUTIONS, ALTHOUGH IT HAS BEEN SO INTERPRETED.

4. RUHFUS SAID THE FRG WAS IN A DILEMMA OVER RECENT EVENTS IN SPAIN. THE FRG HAD BEEN ENCOURAGED BY MOVES THAT ARIAS AND JUAN CARLOS HAD BEEN MAKING TO INCH SPAIN CLOSER TO DEMOCRATIC PROCEDURES. NOW, WITH FRANCO'S RETURN TO ACTION, IT APPEARED THAT SPAIN WAS LAUNCHED ON A WAVE OF TERROR AND COUNTER TERROR THAT WOULD PROBABLY CONTINUE UNTIL FRANCO'S PASSING. MODERATE POLITICAL ELEMENTS HAD BEEN URGING GERMANY TO USE ITS INFLUENCE IN MADRID TOWARD MODERATION AND DEMOCRACY. THEREFORE, THE GERMANS DID NOT WANT TO TAKE POSITIONS THAT WOULD ALIENATE ANY SPANISH POLITICAL GROUP. THE GERMANS PREFERRED TO WORK WITH THE OTHER EC PARTNERS, THOUGH SEVERAL EC PARTNERS WERE MUCH MORE READY THAN BONN TO CONDEMN THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT STRONGLY.

5. WE HAVE REPORTED OTHER PRESS AND POLITICAL OPINION VIA REFTEL.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, EXECUTIONS, REPRESENTATION AT CEREMONIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BONN15987
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750338-0620
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975093/aaaaabrn.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BONN 15981
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <23 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GERMAN-WEST EUROPEAN ACTIONS TO DEMONSTRATE CONCERN ABOUT SPANISH EXECUTIONS
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, SP, GE, XT, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006